

Irish Life hires head of business development for investment manager business

29th October, 2014 - Ireland's largest life assurance company, Irish Life, announced today that Irish Life Investment Managers has hired a new director of Business Development. Ms. Sandra Rockett joins with significant experience in asset management, pensions and financial engineering and will be responsible for identifying opportunities to continue to strengthen and grow the asset management business domestically and also continue the expansion of the business into the European market.

Ms. Rockett is an actuary by profession and has previously worked in senior roles in Davy and Mercer.

Patrick Burke, Managing Director of Irish Life Investment Managers said: "We are very pleased to welcome Sandra, at what is an exciting time for our business. Since the Great-West Lifeco acquisition in 2013 and building on our domestic success, our international business has continued to expand with significant mandate wins of over €1bn in recent times. We are making significant investment hiring talented people, investing in our technology infrastructure and focusing on delivering new products and solutions to meet the changing demands of our clients."

He added: "Our objective is to understand the evolving needs of our customers and to provide inspired investment solutions to our growing client base – solutions which will provide the opportunity for growth while employing strategies that deliver protection in times of market stress."

Irish Life Investment Managers is growing from strength to strength, earlier this year the business was named Equities Manager of the Year and Passive Manager of the Year at the European Pension Awards 2014. Irish Life Investment Managers was the only Irish investment company to be recognised in these prestigious European awards, now in their 7th year, and the only manager to win two awards in 2014.

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For further information please contact:

Colette Campbell / Ruth Doyle at Wilson Hartnell

T: (01) 669 0030 **E:** colette.campbell@ogilvy.com / ruth.doyle@ogilvy.com

About Irish Life:

Established in 1939, Irish Life is Ireland's leading life, investment and pension company. Since July 2013 Irish Life has been part of the Great-West Lifeco group of companies, one of the world's leading life assurance organisations.

Great-West Lifeco and its subsidiaries - including The Great-West Life Assurance Company which was founded in Winnipeg, Canada more than a century ago - have a record for financial strength, earnings stability and consistently high ratings from the independent rating agencies. The Great-West Life Assurance Company has an AA rating for insurer financial strength from Standard & Poor's.

Irish Life is committed to delivering innovative products backed by the highest standards of customer service and, as part of Great-West, has access to experience and expertise

on a global scale, allowing the company to continuously enhance its leading range of products and services.

Irish Life Investment Managers manages money on behalf of a wide range of international and domestic institutional & retail clients including pension funds, charities and corporates. It is Ireland's largest fund manager with a 42% market share and AUM of €43bn.

Irish Life Assurance plc and Irish Life Investment Managers Limited are regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.